

MEETING OF  
THE DELAWARE AGRICULTURAL LANDS PRESERVATION FOUNDATION

A meeting of the Delaware Agricultural Lands Preservation Foundation was held at the Delaware Department of Agriculture, 2320 S. DuPont Hwy. Dover, Delaware, June 15, 2011, with the following members in attendance:

Robert F. Garey, Chairman	Ed Kee, Secretary of Agriculture
William "Chip" Narvel, Jr., Secretary	Lisa Embert, representing Chip Flowers, Jr., State Treasurer
L. Allen Messick, Jr., Treasurer	Tim Taraila, representing Steven Ditmer
Kevin Coyle representing Collin O'Mara, Secretary of DNREC	

Absent: Robert L. Emerson, William Vanderwende and Theodore P. Bobola, Jr.

The following staff members were in attendance: Michael McGrath, Howard Mesick, Milton Melendez, Scott Blaier, Cathy Mesick, Kathi Spangler, and Robin West.

Others in attendance: F. Michael Parkowski, Esq.

Chairman Garey opened the meeting at 8:30 a.m. with prayer.

I. Current Situation Report:

Robin West informed the Board that we have a total of 1,090 farms in preservation districts totaling 155,635 acres, with a total of 639 farms under agricultural easements totaling 100,115 acres at a cost of \$178,222,158. For PDR 16, there are a total of 42 farms, comprising 3,871 acres, with a value of \$40,155,000. For PDR 17, there are a total of 13 farms, comprising 963 acres, with a value of \$9,796,000. For the Forestland Preservation Program there are 40 Forestland Preservation Areas comprising 2,878 acres. For the Forestland Preservation Area Easements, there are a total of 9 properties, comprising 872 acres, with a value of \$1,450,804.

II. Monitoring Report:

Milton Melendez informed the Board that a total of 220 parcels have been done to date, these are Federal properties. Non-Federal parcels visited total 639. A total 859 parcels have been done to date in our monitoring program.

Scott Blaier informed the Board that we are checking the ownership changes by doing a title search on every property.

Michael McGrath presented our new approach to monitoring, informing the Board that with our new computerized equipment we can now do photos and reports in the field and get everything done much faster. We will now be doing an eleven month cycle instead of a 12 month cycle. Maryland and Pennsylvania are coming here to see our monitoring.

Robin West mentioned that the Federal government now has the ability to check on these parcels on their own database.

III. District Final Approval:

1. Shoot and Bull District, ID#K-10-12-258. After discussion, **Kevin Coyle moved to accept for final approval the Shoot and Bull District, seconded by Ed Kee. Motion unanimously approved.**

IV. Expansion Eligibility & Final Approval (Contingent Sale):

1. Kates-Hanson Expansion of the Hanson Agricultural District, ID#K-11-05-044P. After discussion, **Ed Kee moved to accept for eligibility/final approval contingent upon settlement the Kates-Hanson Expansion of the Hanson Agricultural District, seconded by Chip Narvel, Jr. Motion unanimously approved.**

V. Expansion Eligibility & Final Approval:

1. Jewel Expansion of the Tappahanna District, ID#K-10-12-219M. After discussion, **Chip Narvel, Jr. moved to accept for eligibility/final approval the Jewel Expansion of the Tappahanna District, seconded by Al Messick, Jr. Motion unanimously approved.**

VI. Secretary of Agriculture's Veto – Secretary Ed Kee waived the right of veto for the above Expansions and District.

VII. Public Comments – There were no public comments.

VIII. Minutes:

Chairman Garey asked if there were any comments or changes to the May 18, 2011, minutes. Hearing none, the Chairman asked for a motion to approve the minutes. **Allen Messick, Jr. moved to approve the May minutes, seconded by Ed Kee. Motion unanimously approved.**

IX. Financial Highlights:

Howard Mesick presented the Financial Statement for the month of May 2011, informing the Foundation Board that we had, as of May 31, 2011, \$257,226.09 in the Foundation's interest bearing State of Delaware account. We received \$315.00 license plate income and \$165.95 in rollback taxes from Kent County. Our interest income for the month of May was \$121.87. Expenditures for the month of May totaled \$38,589.23. After discussion, **Chip Narvel, Jr. moved to accept the May financial statement as presented, seconded by Kevin Coyle. Motion unanimously approved.**

X. Executive Session – There was no need for an executive session.

XI. Other Business:

Secretary Ed Kee presented Mike McGrath with a going away gift to mark his retirement from the Delaware Department of Agriculture. Chairman Robert Garey presented Mr. McGrath with a tribute from the Board documenting his long-time service to preserve farmland in Delaware.

XII. Adjournment

As there was no further business to come before the Foundation. The meeting adjourned at 9:25 a.m. The next meeting of the Foundation will be held on July 20, 2011 at the Delaware Department of Agriculture, beginning at 8:30 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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Robert F. Garey  
Chairman